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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/316,938
	Filing Date	05/21/1999
	First Named Inventor	THORSEN
	Group Art Unit	2166
	Examiner Name	RIMELL, S.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	1685

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply w/ red-lined claims <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Remarks	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Beck & Tysver, P.L.L.C.
Signature	<i>Stephanie J. Smith</i>
Date	3/27/01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: 3-27-2001	
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Signature	<i>Stephanie J. Smith</i>
Date	3/27/01

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2166 ✓

PTO/SB/17 (11-00)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001 <small>Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</small>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/316,938
		Filing Date	05/21/1999
		First Named Inventor	Thorsen
		Examiner Name	Rimell, S.
		Group Art Unit	2166
		Attorney Docket No.	1685
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT		(\$) 80	

METHOD OF PAYMENT		FEE CALCULATION (continued)																													
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to: Deposit Account Number: 500-246 Deposit Account Name: Beck & Tysver <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27		3. ADDITIONAL FEES																													
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Enclosed: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other																															
FEE CALCULATION																															
1. BASIC FILING FEE																															
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2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES																															
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*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above		*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid																													
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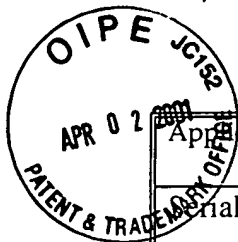
SUBMITTED BY		Complete (if applicable)	
Name (Print/Type)	STEPHANIE J. SMITH	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,437
Signature	<i>Stephanie J. Smith</i>	Telephone	612-915-9636
		Date	3/27/01

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09/316,938

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Thorsen, et al.	Examiner:	Rimell, S.
Serial No.:	09/316,938	Group Art Unit:	2166
Filing Date:	May 21, 1999	Docket No.:	1685
Title	Healthcare Payment, Reporting and Data Processing System and Method		

#6/A
ME
4-7-01

Date of Deposit: 3/27/01

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Signature:

Printed Name: Stephanie J. Smith

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

This is responsive to the outstanding Office Action mailed December 27, 2000, and identified as paper number 5. Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully solicited in view of the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A computerized system for tracking healthcare services, making payment to providers for services, and collecting payment from employers and employees for such services, comprising:
- a) a payment process for paying an aggregate batch of provider claims for services delivered during a predetermined time period to an employee from an aggregate fund;
 - b) a primary funding process coupled to said payment process for replenishing funds disbursed by said payment process, by receiving funds from the employee's employer and depositing said funds in said aggregate fund;

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